



Meet AZN Management: ASCO

Faculty biographies



Pascal Soriot

Chief Executive Officer

Pascal is Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer at AstraZeneca. He has been a member of the Board and CEO since October 2012. Pascal has a passion for science and medicine as well as a successful track record of managing change, executing strategy and leading a diverse organisation.

Prior to AstraZeneca, Pascal served as COO of Roche's pharmaceuticals division from 2010 to 2012 and previously as CEO of Genentech where he led its successful merger with Roche. Pascal joined the pharmaceutical industry in 1986 and has worked in senior roles in numerous major companies around the world. He is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and holds an MBA from HEC Paris.

Pascal received a British knighthood for services to life sciences and leadership in the global response to the COVID pandemic in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2022. He is also on the board of the Sustainable Markets Initiative and champions the Health Systems Task Force which aims to accelerate the delivery of net zero, sustainable healthcare.





Dave Fredrickson

Executive Vice President, Oncology Haematology Business

Dave was appointed Executive Vice-President, Oncology Haematology Business Unit in October 2017 and is responsible for driving growth and maximising the global commercial performance of the AstraZeneca global Oncology portfolio.

Previously, Dave served as President of AstraZeneca Japan and Vice-President, Specialty Care in the US. While in Japan, Dave also served as Vice Chairman of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations Japan and was a Director of the Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association.

Before joining AstraZeneca, Dave worked at Roche/Genentech, where he served in several functions and leadership positions. Prior to this, Dave worked at the Monitor Group, now Monitor Deloitte Group, a global strategy consultancy.

Dave is a graduate of Georgetown University in Washington DC.





Susan Galbraith

Executive Vice President, Oncology Haematology R&D

Susan was appointed as Executive Vice President, Oncology Haematology Research & Development in July 2021, with responsibility for transforming the productivity and scientific output from Oncology R&D. Over her career, Susan has helped develop 12 approved medicines.

As a clinical oncologist, Susan studied medicine at Manchester and Cambridge Universities and has a PhD from the University of London. In recognition of her contributions to Oncology drug development, she has been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Medical Science from the Institute of Cancer Research, is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and elected to the Academy of the American Association for Cancer Research.

Susan is a member of the Cambridge Cancer Centre Executive Committee and the Scientific Advisory Board of the ICR. From 2021 to 2024, she also served on the Board of Directors of the AACR and currently serves on the European Association of Cancer Research Advisory Council.





Cristian Massacesi

Chief Medical Officer and Oncology Chief Development Officer

Appointed in 2021, Cristian leads AstraZeneca's late-stage Oncology portfolio through global clinical development and regulatory submissions. Cristian also leads patient safety and quality assurance activities for the entire portfolio. Over his career, Cristian has helped develop more than a dozen approved medicines.

Before joining AstraZeneca, Cristian held a variety of clinical development leadership roles at Pfizer and at Novartis Pharmaceuticals. He has lectured extensively on oncology clinical development, has authored over 50 peer-reviewed publications, and has generated several patents for cancer treatment combinations and regimens.

A medical oncologist by training, Cristian earned his medical degree from Marche Polytechnic University and received Medical Oncology training at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Kaplan Comprehensive Cancer Center and the European Institute of Oncology.





Sunil Verma

Senior Vice President, Global Head, Oncology Franchise

Sunil Verma is Global Head, Oncology Franchise in AstraZeneca. His leadership is focused on advancing the commercial execution of the Company's transformative medicines in markets across the globe and leading the Oncology business unit strategy to help to lead and build the next wave of portfolio. Dr Verma is internationally recognised for his leadership in helping to transform the cancer paradigms with the development of pivotal medicines across multiple tumor types and settings.

Before joining AstraZeneca in August 2019, Dr Verma was a Medical Oncologist, providing clinical care and expertise with a focus in breast and lung cancer and held several pivotal leadership and research roles in academic medicine over 15 years. He served as Professor and Head of the Department of Oncology at the University of Calgary and the Medical Director of the Tom Baker Cancer Centre from 2015-2019. He also served on faculty at the University of Toronto as Associate Professor and Medical Director of the Breast Cancer Centre at Sunnybrook, Toronto.





Sara Tolaney

Chief of the Division of Breast Oncology, Dana-Farber Cancer Centre

Sara Tolaney, MD, MPH is the Chief of the Division of Breast Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and is internationally recognised for her research and education leadership in breast cancer. She also serves as Associate Director of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers and is a Senior Physician at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Her research focuses on the development of novel therapies in the treatment of breast cancer. Her work has demonstrated that a relatively low-risk regimen is beneficial in women with early-stage node-negative HER2-positive cancers, which has been incorporated into national and international guidelines. She has developed several follow-up studies looking at novel approaches to early-stage HER2-positive disease and has also played a significant role in development of CDK4/6 inhibitors, ADCs, and IO in breast cancer. She currently chairs several registrational trials in these areas and leads many investigator-initiated trials. She is the author of over 150 peer-reviewed publications with manuscripts in many prestigious journals such as the *New England Journal*, *Lancet Oncology*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and *JAMA Oncology*.





Nicholas Turner

Consultant Medical Oncologist, Royal Marsden

Prof. Nicholas Turner is a Consultant Medical Oncologist who specialises in the treatment of breast cancer. He is the Director of The Royal Marsden and ICR NIHR Biomedical Research Centre and Director of Clinical Research at The Royal Marsden and ICR. He is the Head of the Ralph Lauren Centre for Breast Cancer Research and Group Leader in Molecular Oncology at the Breast Cancer Now Research Centre at the Institute of Cancer Research. He has been awarded multiple prizes for his research including the AACR Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research in 2017, the AACR Team Science Award in 2022, the Pezcoller Foundation – EACR Translational Cancer Researcher Award in 2022, the ESMO award for Translational Research in 2023, and the Queen’s Anniversary Prize 2024.

Prof. Turner has co-chaired the ASCO/CAP and chaired the ESMO review committees on ctDNA analysis in patients with cancer. He sits on the organising committees of many international conferences on breast cancer, was the executive chair of the IMPAKT 2015 breast cancer conference, chair of the ESMO Breast Cancer 2025 conference, and is a scientific editor of *Cancer Discovery*. He is Chief Investigator of a number of national and international trials of precision therapy in breast cancer. His research interests include the development of new therapies, and using liquid biopsies to deliver more precise treatment, for breast cancer.

